

PATENT

Case Docket No. SPECBIC.142A

Date: January 4, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Chamberlain et al.
Appl. No. : 10/656,922
Filed : September 4, 2003
For : BICYCLE REAR SUSPENSION
Group Art Unit : 3611
Class/Sub-Class : 280/284000
Examiner : Matthew D. Luby

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 4, 2005

(Date)

Edward A. Schlatter, Reg. No. 32,297

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

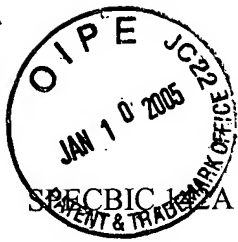
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing is the Issue Fee for the above-identified application:

- (X) Form PTOL-85.
- (X) A check in the amount of \$1030 to cover the issue fee, publication fee, and advanced order of copies is enclosed.
- (X) Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.
- (X) Three (3) sheets of formal drawings.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Applicants | : | Chamberlain et al. | Group Art Unit 3611 |
| Appl. No. | : | 10/656,922 | |
| Filed | : | September 4, 2003 | |
| For | : | BICYCLE REAR SUSPENSION | |
| Examiner | : | Matthew D. Luby | |

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner indicates that the claims are allowable because the prior art fails to disclose a bicycle/bicycle frame including a main frame, an articulating frame for supporting a rear wheel having a chain stay member pivotally supported relative to the main frame and a shock support member fixed for angular displacement with the chain stay member, a shock absorber having a first end pivotally supported at a first axis by the shock support member and a second end pivotally supported at a second axis by the main frame wherein the first axis is positioned above the second axis such that a longitudinal axis of the shock absorber slopes downwardly from the first end to the second end.

The Examiner further states that the claims are allowable because the prior art fails to disclose a bicycle frame including a main frame, a chain stay member pivotally supported relative to the main frame at a first pivot axis, a link member pivotally supported relative to the main frame at a second pivot axis, a seat stay member pivotally supported by the chain stay member at a third pivot axis and the link member at a fourth pivot axis, a shock support member fixed for angular displacement with the chain stay member and defining a derailleur-mount

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Filed : **September 4, 2003**

portion configured to support a front derailleur in an operable position relative to a pedal crank assembly carried by the main frame and a shock absorber pivotally supported by the shock support member at a fifth pivot axis and by the main frame at a sixth pivot axis.


Applicants' submit that it is the entire combination of elements recited by any one of the allowable claims that is patentable over the prior art and disagree with the Statement to the extent that it implies that any single element, or combination of elements less than the entire claim, is of greater importance in distinguishing the prior art than any other element of the allowable claims. Furthermore, the Examiner's stated reasons are not the only reasons that the claims are allowable over the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: January 4, 2005

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